



# The Planning Inspectorate Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Mwdwl Eithin Wind Farm Proposal  
Conwy

18 March 2016  
13:00 – 15:00

## Attendees:

Gareth Davies – Clean Earth Energy  
Bryany Fowler – Clean Earth Energy  
Tony Thickett - Director for Wales (Planning Inspectorate)  
Chris Sweet - Planning and Environment Team (Planning Inspectorate)  
Ifan Gwilym - Planning and Environment Team (Planning Inspectorate)  
Robert Sparey - Planning and Environment Team (Planning Inspectorate)  
Hefin Jones – Major Casework Team (Planning Inspectorate)  
Lewis Thomas - Welsh Government

## **Meeting Note**

The Planning Inspectorate Wales (the Inspectorate) met with representatives from Clean Earth Energy on Friday 18 March 2016 to discuss Mwdwl Eithin Wind Farm located within Conwy County Borough Council.

Clean Earth Energy provided an overview of the proposal. The scheme had approval from Conwy CBC in 2011 with the permission expiring in May 2016. It was not possible for the developer to implement the permission before the expiry.

The Inspectorate confirmed that the scheme now falls under the DNS regime and due to the DNS timeframe, it would be impossible to extend the 2011 permission before the May 2016 expiry. The developer would need to start a new application under the DNS regime.

The Inspectorate provided procedural advice.

The Inspectorate confirmed that a Scoping Opinion could be sought by the developer, and that it could outline which studies would or wouldn't need to be updated. A Scoping Report (including information from the previous Environmental Statement, and details of ongoing work and engagement) to support the Scoping request would assist the Inspectorate in preparing their Scoping Opinion.



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Clean Earth Energy enquired whether it would be possible to apply for a phased build out e.g. commissioning 3 turbines per year for 4 years for an 11 turbine scheme. The Inspectorate confirmed that once permission is implemented there should be no timeline for completion included as a condition. However, the developer may be at risk of receiving a completion notice from the local authority if it feels that the development is in danger of being left uncompleted. The Inspectorate advised that, as there may be fairly substantial implications arising from a phased build out (e.g. varying visual impacts), the phasing should be built into any assessments. If a phased build out is intended, it is better to be open from the outset.

Clean Earth Energy confirmed that they did not currently intend to submit any applications for secondary consents with the DNS application.